

The ribs on the right valve of *jordani* are all divided from near the umbones.

One fine specimen (the type) living was obtained in July, 1919, and one was taken in July, 1918, but is much thicker shell, a little larger than the type. Named in honor of Prof. Trevor Kincaid, of the Univ. of Washington, to whom we owe so much good material. Type is in Oldroyd Coll., Stanford University, No. 89.

Pecten islandicus pugetensis n. var. Plate IV, figs, 5, 6.

Shell much smaller than the typical, sculpture coarser in proportion to the size. Shell more elongate and the ribs spinose. Ribs 17 with a very fine one in the interspaces.

The type is in the Oldroyd Collection, Stanford University. Type locality off San Juan Island, Puget Sound. 12 specimens were obtained, two from the dredge, and ten from rocks on shore.

HERBERT HUNTINGTON SMITH.¹

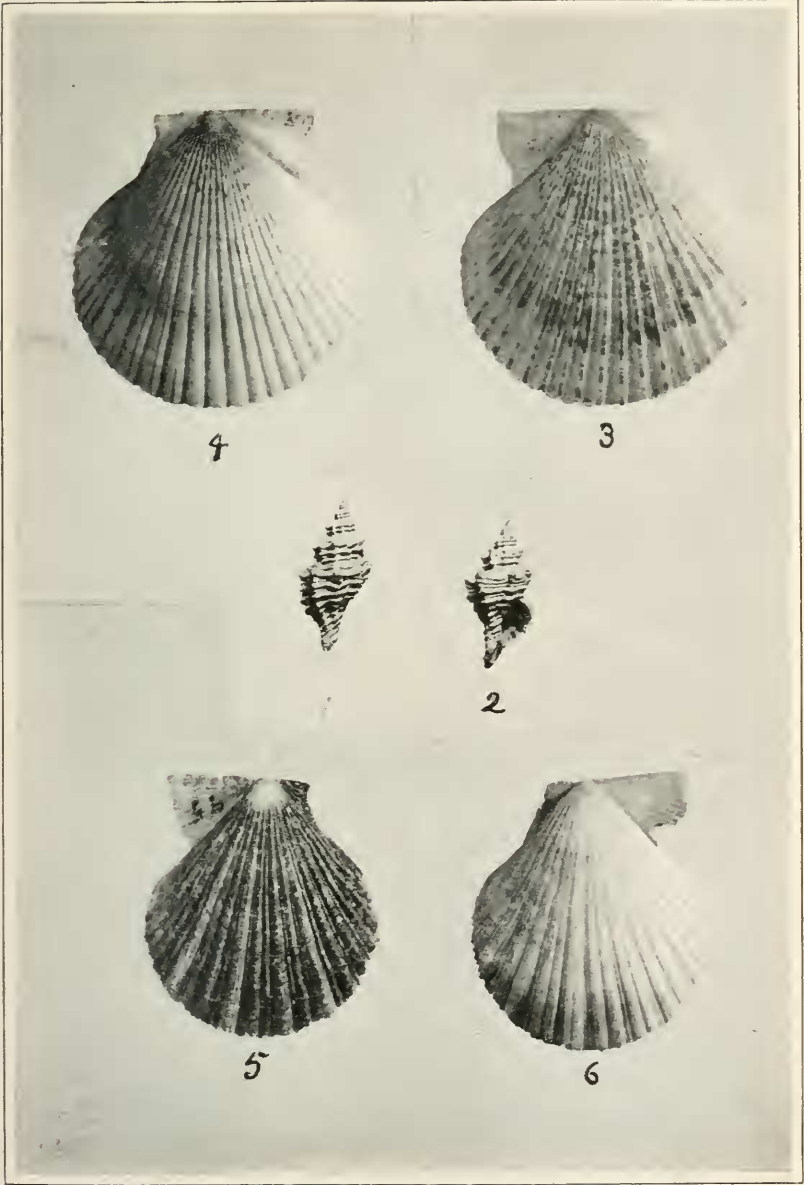
BY GEORGE H. CLAPP.

The sudden death of Herbert Huntington Smith on March 22nd last, at University, Alabama, meant more, perhaps, to the conchologists of the United States than we now realize, although the collecting and serious study of shells was the work of the later years of his life.

Born at Manlius, New York, on January 21, 1851, and graduated at Cornell University in 1872, he early in life became interested in natural history, and made some collections in different branches. Mr. Smith told me that his first real work was on fossils; and he later became interested in insects. When he began to collect the mollusca, I do not know; but when he joined the Carnegie Museum of Pittsburgh, he had quite an extensive general collection. Between the years 1870 and 1886 he made several trips to Brazil and altogether spent about eight

¹ A portrait of Mr. Smith was published in the number for July, 1919.

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OLDROYD: WEST COAST SHELLS

years in exploring and collecting. He collected such shells as he saw, but did not specialize on them.

In answer to my inquiry Mrs. Smith wrote:

"In Brazil I only remember a few odd lots of land shells until we got to Corumbá on our way home; it was rich in land shells, but Mr. Smith said that the mosquitoes were 'frightful.' In order to do a morning's work of collecting, he had to tie his sleeves tight at the wrist, do the same thing with his ankles; tie a bandana around his neck; fill his pockets with cigarettes and matches; put a cigar in his mouth, 'grit his teeth,' and start. All the collecting there was almost a torture, so I imagine shell collecting was quite a cursory affair."

The number of shells collected on that trip was very large, although the species were not numerous; but a number of them were new to science. These shells were widely distributed, probably by Dr. Newcomb, and when we see the locality "Corumbá, Brazil," we may feel pretty sure that we are looking at Smith's shells.

During the time he was in the West Indies, for the Royal Society, and in Mexico, for Mr. F. D. Godman, he collected "everything," and naturally shells proved to be no small part of his "catch."

When he went to Colombia, in 1898, I arranged to take all of his land shells, but he got so interested in collecting mammals, birds and plants that the return in shells was not very large, except in some of the larger and more conspicuous species. There he again ran into the "insect pests," and at one place, near the coast at Santa Marta, he said the "sand flies" poisoned him so that the skin even peeled off the palms of his hands. His final breakdown in 1902, he always attributed to the poison of sand flies, gnats, mosquitoes, and the thousand-and-one other curses of the tropics.

In 1903 his health still being poor, he gave up the fight, and resolved to go to the South to live. He settled at Wetumpka, Ala., and at once started after shells. His first collecting there, so different from work in the tropics, was rather disheartening, and he wrote that there were no shells in that region. A little later he began to get results, and then he wrote, "I didn't know how to collect," and when the first lot came in, it was seen that

he had struck a remarkably rich region. Then a "Syndicate" was formed of T. H. Aldrich, of Washington, D. C., Mr. Bryant Walker, of Detroit, Dr. H. A. Pilsbry, of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa., and the writer, and the work was carried on steadily for over six years. Dr. Pilsbry dropped out in 1906, and he was replaced by Mr. John B. Henderson, of Washington, D. C.

The naming and distribution of the thousands of land shells collected in all parts of Alabama, fell to the part of the writer, and the new species have all been described by him; 13 species and 4 varieties up-to-date, with probably several more to follow, as the material is more carefully studied. After the regular work for the "Syndicate" was stopped, Mr. Smith continued collecting fresh-water shells for Mr. Walker, and land shells for the writer, while collecting Tertiary fossils for the Geological Survey of Alabama, by which he was employed as Curator of the Museum at the University of Alabama. The sorting, naming and distributing of the fresh-water shells, was done by Mr. Walker, and I cannot do better than quote from a letter from him, on this subject:

"I enclose the meager list of n. sp. and vars. that have been described from Mr. Smith's material. But that does not begin to show the enormous amount of work that he did in developing the fauna of Alabama. Besides going the whole length of the Coosa from Gadsden to Wetumpka by boat, he did the Black Warrior thoroughly before it was spoiled by the Government improvements (?) and spent a season on the Mussel Shoals of the Tennessee. Two or three summers were spent on the Connasauga and other head-waters of the Coosa, and in numerous side trips he had covered practically the whole state. Then, too, through local collectors, many of them trained by him, he had reached into many localities that he did not personally visit. By these means he collected an enormous amount of material, practically none of which has been worked up.

"While he worked for the 'Syndicate' he collected everything; but when that arrangement ceased, he specialized in the *Unionidæ* and *Pleuroceridæ*. I have not any very accurate figures on the number of specimens of *Unionidæ* that he collected, but I think that from 40,000 to 50,000 would not be an overestimate. His Black Warrior collection alone he reported as 10,000. No report on this material has ever been made, and a

very large proportion of it still remains to be worked over. This I shall do as rapidly as I have time. I also have on hand many thousands of specimens of *Amnicolidæ* that have not been sorted out. And the same is true of a very large amount of *Ancylidæ* from the Coosa and its tributaries.

“But it was especially in the *Pleuroceridæ* that he put in his best work. He became exceedingly interested in that family and the many perplexing problems that its protean species presented, and it was his expectation to work it up himself. The enormous collection, thousands upon thousands of specimens, and the familiarity that he had acquired in his many years of field work, especially fitted him for the work. But unfortunately the multitude of duties that pressed upon him, as Curator of the State Museum, prevented him from carrying his plan into execution. He had planned to publish a paper on the *Anculosæ* of the Coosa for some time, and expected to write it up this last spring. He had gone so far as to arrange a series of the species in the order that he intended to present them, but his untimely death prevented the completion of the work. Beyond this, and a somewhat similar arrangement of the *Gyrotomas*, nothing has been done and, except the manuscript names attached to many species that he believed to be new, and which he intended to describe, there is absolutely nothing left to show the vast knowledge that he had acquired of that marvelous fauna. He had it all in his brain, and it all perished with him. I do not suppose that any other man ever had such an intimate knowledge of the variation of that family, and to think that it is all gone, is truly pitiful.

“I do not believe that the fauna of any other State in the Union has ever been so thoroughly worked as was that of Alabama, by him.”

I do not know how many new species were collected by Mr. Smith in Brazil, the West Indies and Mexico, but the following is the list from Colombia and Alabama:

COLOMBIA.

Glandina callista Pilsbry and Clapp.	Aperostoma smithi Pilsbry and Clapp.
Circinaria ponsonbyi Pilsbry and Clapp.	Helicina sanctæmarthæ Pilsbry and Clapp.
Circinaria ponsonbyi var. clara Pilsbry and Clapp.	Helicina cacaguelita Pilsbry and Clapp.
Aperostoma sanctæmarthæ Pilsbry and Clapp.	